

CLAIMS:

1. Method for processing information corresponding to an analog signal, wherein a digital watermark signal is hidden in the analog signal in such a way that the watermark signal may be extracted by a device receiving the analog signal, characterized by embedding an encryption key in said watermark signal, the encryption key being intended to be identified by an encoding device for using the key to encrypt a digitally coded information sequence corresponding to said analog signal.

2. Method according to claim 1, wherein the watermark signal further comprises instructions on how the encoding device is intended to process the analog signal.

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3. Method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the watermark signal further comprises copyright information.

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4. Method according to any of the preceding claims, wherein said processing further involves storing data corresponding to the analog signal on a storage medium.

5. Method according to any of claims 1 to 3, wherein said processing further involves broadcasting a signal corresponding to the analog signal.

20 6. Device for digitally encoding information corresponding to an analog signal, characterized by a watermark detector for detecting a watermark signal, hidden in the analog signal, a key detector for identifying an encryption key in the watermark signal, an encoder for digitally encoding the analog signal and an encrypting unit for encrypting the digitally encoded signal, using the encryption key.

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7. Device according to claim 6, further comprising means for retrieving instruction from the watermark signal about how the analog signal should be processed.

8. Device according to claim 6 or 7, further comprising a decoder for decoding a digital input signal, such that a watermark signal, embedded in an analog signal corresponding to the digital input signal, may be retrieved.
- 5 9. Device according to any of claims 6-8, wherein the encrypting unit uses a residential key to encrypt encoded analog signals which have no key embedded in a watermark signal.
10. 10. Device according to any of claims 6-9, wherein said watermark detector, said key detector, said encoder and said encrypting unit are provided on a single integrated circuit.